were revised by partially withdrawing concession enjoyed by these commodities in the past.

(c) The estimate of additional revenue to be generated from these revisions is Rs. 526 crores per annum.

(d) and (e) Since the increase is marginal, diversion of Rail traffic to Road is not expected.

(f) The following measures have been taken to increase the freight traffic:

(1) Prompt and adequate supply of wagons.

(2) Diversion of piecemeal traffic from Road to Rail through Containerised service;

(3) Leasing out of Luggage van/ Parcel van space traffic;

(4) Transportation of automobiles in modified coaches, and

(5) Own Your Wagon Scheme introduced to encourage private participation in ownership of wagons.

Tender for Manufacturing of Wagons

1211. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has recently floated tenders for manufacture of wagons by private parties and if so, the terms and conditions fixed for parties found suitable for manufacture of wagons;

(b) whether the process has since been completed and if so, what has been the outcome of tenders and the names of manufacture so finalised;

(c) whether the manufacture has since began and if so, the quota of manufacture so fixed, party-wise;

(d) what is the total requirement of wagons in the country and the actual production as on date; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the tenders have been floated dispite strong protest from different quarters and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Tender has been floated for both private and public sector parties. Terms & conditions for manufacture of wagons will be as per tender documents.

(b) and (c) No. Sir.

(d) Requirement of wagons depend upon transport needs & availability of resources. For 97-98, target of procurement of 26000 four wheeler units of wagons (including 5000 from 'Own-your-wagon-scheme' & Build-own-lease and transfer-scheme) has been fixed by Railways. Upto Oct. '97, 16172.5 wagons in terms of four wheeler units have been manufactured in 97-98. Plans for procurement of wagons for 98-99 has not yet been finalised.

(e) There have been some criticism about the invitation of tenders for procurement of wagons. However, procurement of wagons through tenders has brought savings to Railways, in past and it would improve financial position of the Railways.

Undertakings of Ministry of Railways

1212. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of public sector undertaking which are coming under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways;

(b) whether the Ministry examines in details the annual reports of such undertakings and the audit reports and the comments of the auditors; and

(c) if so, what are the serious audit objections pointed out in the undertakings reports and what actions were taken by Government in respect of such reports for 1995-96 and 1996-97, undertaking-wise?